health care services is being improved through strengthening of initiatives under the Reproductive & Child Health (RCH) programme. Special focus for implementation of NRHM is on 18 States, which have weak public health indicators and/or weak infrastructure including the State of Orissa. The following initiatives have been taken.

The second phase of the RCH Programme taken up in all the States including Orissa seeks to improve all aspects of reproductive health services for women.

Implementation of the Janani Suraxsha Yojana (JSY) for increasing access to institutional delivery for women Below the Poverty Line (BPL).

Appointment of Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) for every village with a population upto 1000 to facilitate the access of health care services to the community.

Operationalising Community Health Centres as First Referral Units (FRU) for providing Emergency Obstetric and Child Health Services

Making 50% Primary Health Centres functioning for providing 24 hours delivery services over a period of five years.

Establishing referral linkages between village, PHC, CHC and FRU.

Ensuring quality of services by implementing Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) for Primary Health Care Facilities.

Provision of Essential drugs and equipment

Fund allocation of AIIMS like hospitals

†2043. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an announcement was made to upgrade six hospitals of the country to the level of AIIMS by the previous Government;

(b) whether foundation stones were laid for upgradation of these hospitals;

(c) if so, the names of the institutes where these foundation stones were laid and dates thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the amount that was to be spent on the upgradation of these institutes separately; and

(e) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (e) Under the upgradation component of the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Yojana (PMSY), it was initially proposed to upgrade six existing Medical Institutions in six States. Considering the need for giving wider geographical coverage to the Scheme and also the requests received from the other States Governments, it is now proposed to upgrade eleven (11) medical institutions to the level of AIIMS like Institutions under the Scheme. Foundation stone in respect of two (2) medical institutions *viz.* Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) and Government Medical College, Jammu (Jammu & Kashmir) have been laid on 12.1.2004 and 25.1.2004 respectively. The capital cost of upgradation of each institute is estimated as Rs. 120 crores. The PMSY Scheme has been cleared by the Expenditure Finance Committee and Committee of Secretaries (COS) and is being placed before Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for approval.

Proposal for cancer treatment In medical college, Bhopal

†2044. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has forwarded a revised proposal for prevention and treatment of cancer disease in Medical College, Bhopal; and

(b) if so, by when the said proposal would be sanctioned alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The proposal of Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) was received for consideration of financial assistance under the Oncology Wing Scheme of National Cancer Control Programme. The institution has received Rs. 1.50 crores already and Utilization Certificate for Rs. 50 lakhs is still pending from the State Government. The proposal would be considered after the utilization certificate is received.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.